

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service is a publication of the American Federation of Labor, Inc., 1015 Broadway, New York, N. Y. It is published weekly, except on Sundays and holidays, and contains news, information and other material of interest to labor. It is sold by subscription only. The subscription price is \$2.00 per year in advance. Single copies are 10 cents. It is sent to members of the A. F. of L. free of charge.

WHOLE NO. 971.

## STATE IS BLOCKED IN TREASON PLOT

Marion, N. C., Nov. 16.—The State failed to consolidate charges of disorder with charges of treason, conspiracy and rebellion against Albert Hoffman, organizer United Textile Workers, and four other trade unionists.

Judge V. G. Cowper's decision is a blow to the prosecution, as Solicitor Fless realizes the difficulty of proving the conspiracy on which the five unionists are now being tried.

Judge Cowper's decision was made when instructing the grand jury in other cases. The court made a sharp distinction between treason and rebellion and an ordinary violation of statutory law.

The court pointed out that in the case of a woman charged with striking the sheriff with a stick that this act can be charged as treason, but that in the case of a man who enters an automobile factory and starts a fire, the charges of treason against the five workers be consolidated with charges of disorder and rebellion.

The State and mill owners have an army of legal talent. The defense agrees that the plan to get Hoffman out of the State because of his representative position.

## EMPLOYEES' STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN IS BUMPED BY WALL STREET UPSET

Washington, Nov. 16.—The record-breaking smash in Wall Street has caused many workers who have been buying stock on the theory that eventually they will become "capitalists" to have a change of heart.

The State and mill owners have an army of legal talent. The defense agrees that the plan to get Hoffman out of the State because of his representative position.

Employees bought this stock when it was selling at around \$100 a share. The State stock, this year, sold at high prices, but now it is selling at a low as the \$105—a loss of \$108 a share.

The same drop is noted in other stocks that were touted "as safe as a government bond." Allied Chemical and Lead, leading chemical corporations, dropped \$154 a share; Westinghouse, \$192 a share; North American (public utilities holding company), \$102, and Radio Corporation, \$85.

## SOCIALIST PARTY BEING TORN ASUNDER

New York, Nov. 16.—The founders of the present-day Socialist party will turn in their resignation and could read a list just issued by the executive committee.

The list states that in a conference of labor, liberal and progressive groups will be held in Albany, next February, to form a coalition party to win the 1930 State campaign.

Twenty years ago the Socialist party sternly called on workers to be politically "chase common sense." "Revolutionaries assumed the right to wage the workers' political campaign and other members of organized labor to follow the tumultuous march over this issue.

Dictators were named for terms of reproach that were hurled at trade unionists by men who have made complete about-face since they are willing to "compromise." In fact, they are so gentle they would doubt the term "Socialist party."

These visionaries, who borrowed their ideas from Europe, are forced to agree that a "working class" party is foreign to the American idea.

The trade union movement will continue to fight in the future, but support candidates on every ticket, be they Socialists, Republicans, Democrats, Progressives, or whatever. Never has non-partisanship, for the moment, been so much more pronounced in this country.

## CAR STRIKE STILL ON; PROTESTERS VICTIMIZED

New Orleans, Nov. 16.—More than 1,100 striking street car men agreed to a mass meeting to discuss the strike against the local traction company.

The workers accepted an agreement negotiated in New York, but the company is victimizing them by not allowing them to work. The company is victimizing them by not allowing them to work.

HENRY DONNELLY DIES  
New York, N. Y., Nov. 16.—Henry Donnelly, secretary of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, died suddenly in this city. He was 55.

WILLIAM GREEN, President  
of the American Federation of Labor, Inc., 1015 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

## ALL AMERICAN LABOR IS CALLED SKILLFUL

Washington, Nov. 16.—The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics strives to recognize the term "unskilled labor," according to Charles E. Baldwin, Assistant Commissioner of the bureau.

There is no satisfactory dividing line between a skilled and unskilled worker, said Mr. Baldwin. The bureau takes men by the kind of work they do rather than according to the skill with which they perform their tasks, he stated.

"Even a man who works entirely with his hands in a most humble position requires a certain amount of skill to perform his task. Nearly every man can push a wheelbarrow, but it isn't every man who can manage one on a narrow steel beam of a skyscraper under process of construction."

Farmers are often classed as so-called unskilled laborers, yet there are thousands of persons who could not go about raising a crop without the aid of a machine that can operate it as successfully as a man.

"Likewise a man who enters an automobile factory and starts a fire, the charges of treason against the five workers be consolidated with charges of disorder and rebellion."

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## UNION PROBLEM IN SOUTH IS UNIQUE

In its resolve to organize the South the A. F. of L. has assumed its most difficult task in its history. This movement will neither be local nor State-wide. Its area is larger than Continental Europe, exclusive of Russia.

The economic and social existence of the South in other days was bottomed on chattel slavery. There was much talk of "Jeffersonian Democracy," but every impulse was toward an oligarchic type of society.

This vast domain, now being industrialized, is dominated by a background whose historical roots are long and deep. The industrial revolution that would feudalize the South by other outward forms use old cultures for their selfish purpose.

The attempt of a comparative few to maintain this social caste, standardization and regimentation is more pronounced in the South. It fits into the industrial autocrat's theory.

This philosophy is linked with an individualism of agricultural and mountain folk who are being herded into mill villages, organized labor is confronted by a situation that calls for persistent education and agitation.

Other sections organized labor, but the South's background makes this opposition unique. The higher wages and shorter hours, it means a new social outlook that the autocrat resists. It means destruction of an unlimited reservoir of low-wage labor that can be controlled because of age-long environment.

Democracy in industry is unthinkable when vast areas are overwhelmed by wage workers who are encouraged to maintain ideals that do not fit into our national outlook.

Duty and self-interest should impel trade unionists to assist this organization movement. The men and women of the Southland who combat ancient ideals should be given every aid that the menace to a larger life and to higher standards of living may be removed.

## Southern Workers Forced To Unite; Later Called On Northern Unionists

New York, Nov. 16.—Northern workers are being urged to assist Southern workers in their struggle for better wages and shorter hours. The American Federation of Labor, Inc., is calling on its members to support the Southern workers.

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## SENATE IN RUMPS OVER "JACKASSES"

Washington, Nov. 16.—The tariff bill in the Senate was widened when it was learned that Senator Moses of New Hampshire referred to Western insurgents' members of his party as "jackasses."

The "jackasses" were previously referred to as "pygmies," as "more dangerous" than the "jackasses," and as "pseudos Republicans." Joseph R. Grundy, president Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association, declared that he and their associates in the minority party come from "jackass" territory.

Senator Norris, Borah, Nye and Norbeck (Republican) and Wheeler (Democrat) led the barrage against Senator Moses, who was saluted by the President of the Senate. Moses said he would be glad to accept it.

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FRANK MORRISON, Secretary

## COTTON MILL PROBE URGED; UNIONISTS JEER 'RED' CLAIM

Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 16.—The charge made in the United States Senate that agitation in the North Carolina cotton mills is due to Communists is incorrect, declare officers of the North Carolina Federation of Laborers as appeal to Senators Simmons and Overman to support Senator Wheeler's resolution providing for a senatorial investigation of the cotton industry.

"There is no communism in the North Carolina cotton industry and no Communists in any other strike situation in this State handled by the organizations affiliated to the A. F. of L.," the unionists state.

"The past several months have seen strikes, disorders, lockouts, bloodshed and homicide in the textile centers. There have been National Guard troops on duty at cotton mills in protesting violence."

Attention is called to the widespread application of the blacklist of workers who join a trade union. "With winter at hand," the unionists state, "we have the anomalous situation of mill owners to eject from their cotton mills."

"To reveal the scale of wages, hours and employment in the cotton industry which employs in the cotton industry are engaged."

"To determine whether there is a discrimination on the part of mill owners in the cotton industry, to determine the present system in the cotton mill industry is affecting society in this State; whether it is contributing to the physical and spiritual uplift or is tending to demoralize, degenerate and oppress the workers in the mills."

"The present system is apt to have upon future generations in this State."

## Chicago Printers Win Five-Day Week; Make New Record for English-Speaking

Chicago, Nov. 16.—Several thousand printers employed in commercial shops in this city won the five-day week and raised wages \$2.00 a week.

This is the first English-speaking affiliate of the International Typographical Union that has secured this gain. A five-year contract was signed.

The five-day work-week will be operative in June, July and August during 1931 and 1932. Beginning April 1, 1933, it will operate continuously and the commercial trade will be on a 40-hour, five-day work basis.

## SENATE 'COALITION' AUTO INDUSTRY IN DANGER ROAD

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 16.—Unemployment in the auto industry is raising such a howl that it may be classed with textiles and coal.

It is stated that auto production in this country last year had increased 238 per cent, and that last year this represented \$9,168 production per worker. During the same period the textile industry had a production of \$1,677, or a difference of \$7,491.

"We have great profits and great employment," the auto industry says. "The textile industry is in a desperate straits, and the coal industry is in a desperate straits."

"This industry is probably the worst off in the world. It is the only industry in the world that is not producing anything. It is the only industry in the world that is not producing anything."

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## DRRESSMAKERS STRIKE AGAINST SWEATSHOPS

New York, Nov. 16.—A strike of 45,000 dressmakers and 15,000 children's dressmakers the first of the season is being called by the officials of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

The dress trade is in a deplorable condition. Women are paid from \$14 to \$20 a week for dressmakers when sweatshops, women in union shops earn from \$25 to \$35 for a 42-hour week.

The union's publicity against sweatshops, as Louis Schwartz, president of the union, said, is the first of its kind. It is the first of its kind.

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